

JIMMY CARTER
MANDATORY REVIEW
CASE # NLC 95-86
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NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/ORCON
The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

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14 September 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: The National Security Council

SUBJECT : Alert Memorandum on USSR-Afghanistan (U)

The Soviet leaders may be on the threshold of a decision to commit their own forces to prevent the collapse of the Taraki regime and protect their sizable stake in Afghanistan. Small Soviet combat units may already have arrived in the country. I am concerned that the Soviets may be underestimating the difficulties of shoring up the regime and may find themselves under growing pressures to escalate the scope of their intervention in the next few months. Moreover, the Soviets may now be more inclined to gamble on a substantial intervention in Afghanistan because of their perception of a downturn in relations with the US and the uncertain prospects for Senate approval of the SALT treaty. (S/NF 3700)

Stansfield Turner
STANSFIELD TURNER

Attachment
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removed and when separated from
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